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Faculty Senate Resolution 07-09

Louisiana State University and Agricultural & Mechanical College

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Faculty Senate Resolution 07–09
Streamlining the Senate Committee System
Sponsored by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Whereas the Constitution of the LSU Faculty Senate grants general responsibility for establishing and managing committees to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee (Article VI, ¶4);

Whereas the committee system is intended to promote efficient representation of the faculty by delegating authority for the supervision of the many and various aspects of University life to small and nimble ensembles of colleagues;

Whereas the tasks and structures of the committee system should track and respond to changes in the activities and administration of the University;

Whereas the long-term tasks of some standing committees have, in the fulness of time, been completed while other, now urgent tasks have been sporadically assigned to *ad hoc* committees;

Whereas the staffing of committees by a strictly “democratic” procedure in which many colleges or programs are represented on many if not all committees has produced an untenable situation in which an overtaxed faculty is scarcely able to fill all available committee seats;

Whereas there are other means of insuring fair representation of all the colleges and programs without imposing onerous staffing requirements;

And whereas smaller committees can often complete their assignments more quickly and efficiently than large ones;

Therefore be it resolved that the LSU Faculty Senate commissions the Executive Committee to (i) examine the present committee system and to identify those standing committees that, having fulfilled their purposes, may be removed from the slate of committees; and (ii) to develop new, more efficient models for representative committee staffing.

And therefore be it further resolved that the results of the aforementioned shall be presented for Senate consideration, debate, and voting.